A TREE'S DIAMOND JUBILEE

George T. Hastings

This fall exercises were held in San Diego, California, commemorating the seventy-fifth anniversary of the discovery of the Torrey Pines, Pinus Torreyana. These trees were discovered in the same year that California was admitted to the Union and are California's birthday trees. First found in April, 1850 by Dr. C. C. Perry, they were named in honor of Dr. John Torrey. It is probable, however, that Dr. Torrev never saw the trees. The original grove, some twenty miles north of San Diego is now the Torrey Pine Preserve, dedicated to the "preservation of the rarest of the pine trees and their companion shrubs and wild flowers." Besides this grove there is known one smaller one on Santa Rosa Island. Where the seeds of the Torrey Pine have been planted in other regions the trees grow tall and straight, not like the twisted, stunted trees on the promontory overlooking the Pacific. The following poem was written in connection with the jubilee celebration.

THE TORREY PINES

By W. B. France

Out where the old Pacific roars,
Its breakers voicing a wordless rhyme,
Dashing forever on silent shores,
Like waves of Life on the sands of Time,
With far-flung branches and roots that cling
To painted canyons and steep inclines,
Proud of the story they lived to bring,
They stand—the last of the Torrey Pines.

Eons ago, when man was young,
From northern mountains their fathers strayed;
Age after age they lived and clung
To cliffs that torrents and winds have flayed.
Fighting for life as years have wrought
Their handicraft on the world they mould,
Gaining strength from the fight they fought,
Still they stood till their tale was told.



An Old Torrey Pine

Faith is in them—a faith that sees
The broader life of the singing spheres;
Faith in the Infinite God of Trees,
Who counts a day as a thousand years.
Timeless ages they lived and grew,
And carried on as their brothers fell;
Seeing only a work to do,
Knowing only to do it well.

Thus, as we each must come and go,
We do our part as the ages climb—
Human forces that ebb and flow
Like waves of Life on the shores of Time!
May we each, in the work we do,
Whatever duties our fate assigns,
Keep the courage to see it through—
Hold the faith of the Torrey Pines.

BOOK REVIEWS

MISS LISTER'S "MYCETOZOA" *

The third edition of Lister's monograph of the "Mycetozoa" has just appeared. The first edition of this standard work on the slime-moulds appeared in 1894 and represented the results of many years of labor on the part of Mr. Arthur Lister. The drawings, many of which were in color, were executed by Mr. Lister and his able daughter Miss Gulielma Lister. Mr. Lister died July 19, 1908.

The widespread interest in the first edition resulted in bringing in much new material. As a result of this Miss Lister prepared a second edition, much enlarged and with improvements in the quality of the plates. The second edition appeared in 1911.

The third edition dated January 1925, includes three additional genera and forty-six new species. Some of the new species are raised from varietal rank. Twenty-two new plates have been added, eight of which are colored.

The appearance of this excellent monograph will be an invaluable aid to students of slime-moulds the world over, since many of these minute organisms are cosmopolitan in their distribution. Especially is the author to be congratulated on the number and excellence of the illustrations.—Fred J. Seaver.

* Monograph of Mycetozoa. Third Edition., British Museum, 1925. £ 1. 11.6.